

P.O. Box 236 ♦ Mt. Crawford, VA 22841  
(540) 350-2700

November 3, 2005

Federal Communication Commission  
Office of the Secretary  
445 – 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Room Tw-A325  
Washington, DC 20554

Ref: CC Docket No. 96-45

To whom it May Concern:

I am filing this letter to petition for a waiver of Section 54.904 with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) on behalf of North River Telephone Cooperative, Study Area Code 190236, for the Interstate Common Line Support suspended for the period July 2003 through June 2004.

Faye Bottenfield the Manager of Accounting for North River Telephone Cooperative received a telephone call from Gary Hannan at NECA in August 2005. Gary related that he recently became aware that the ICLS certification due June 30, 2003 had not been filed correctly. Since the employee responsible for the filing at that time was no longer with North River Telephone Cooperative at the time of Gary's call, we tried to reconstruct the events surrounding the filing deadline.

Our research indicated that an error had indeed occurred. North River Telephone did file a use certification by the June 30, 2003 deadline but had inadvertently filed the High Cost Funds use certification (see Section 54.314(b)), thinking it was the correct use certification to file in June. This same form was filed again in October 2003. North River received no notification from USAC that the ICLS certification was incorrect and was not aware of how to check the status on line.

Upon receiving the call from Gary, North River Telephone Cooperative submitted the correct certification that was due June 30, 2003. However, we were told that the information was received too late and support would not be restored without FCC action.

The result of the filing error is a significant reduction in the revenue (about \$46,000) for North River Telephone Cooperative and its 1,083 members. The Cooperative is extremely dependent on the funds to cover the operating costs associated with providing telephone service to our members in rural Augusta County, Virginia. Our new personnel are fully aware of the due dates now and we are committed to providing the correct information in a timely manner. Also, NECA has some guidelines in place that will be

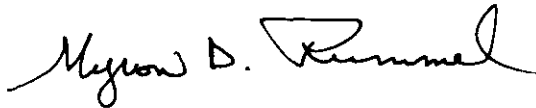
No. of Copies rec'd 0  
List A B C D E

helpful to us as we continue our efforts to meet all the filing requirements and deadlines required by the FCC.

North River Telephone Cooperative clearly intended to comply with the timely submission of the 2003 ICLS certification. With the exception of this incident, the Company has an excellent history of compliance with regulatory requirements.

North River recognizes that some time has elapsed since the error occurred, but we have only recently become aware of the situation. As General Manager for North River Telephone Cooperative, I ask the Commission to please grant this petition for waiver. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Myron D. Rummel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Myron" being more prominent than the last name "Rummel".

Myron D. Rummel  
General Manager